Helpful Hints For Searching
the Code of Federal Regulations
Online via GPO Access

Content and file format: The Office of the Federal Register and the Government Printing Office are jointly developing the official online edition of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) for dissemination via *GPO Access*. The Code of Federal Regulations is a codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

The CFR is divided into 50 titles which represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each title is divided into chapters which usually bear the name of the issuing agency. Each chapter is further subdivided into parts covering specific regulatory areas. Large parts may be subdivided into subparts. All parts are organized in sections, and most citations in the CFR will be to the section level.

CFR volumes appear online as WAIS databases, accessible through the World Wide Web, with WAIS client software, or via telnet or dial-in access. The intial CFR titles introduced online were: Title 20 (Parts 400-499) Employees' Benefits, Title 21 (all parts) Food and Drugs and Title 40 (Parts 87 to 135) Protection of the Environment. Additional titles will be added incrementally throughout calendar years 1996 and 1997 until a complete set is available. GPO is in the process of reconfiguring workforces and procedures in an attempt to make all CFR volumes available online concurrent with their release in print. This endeavor will begin with CFR titles dated October 1, 1996.

Ultimately, the entire set of CFR volumes will be available online utilizing SGML-based retrieval software that will provide superior contextual search capabilities. Within a few years, the CFR database will also have online revision capabilities that will enable it to be updated on a more current basis.

Each volume of the CFR is revised once each calendar year and issued on a quarterly basis approximately as follows:

> Title 1 through Title 16..........................as of January 1
> Title 17 through Title 27..........................as of April 1
> Title 28 through Title 41..........................as of July 1
> Title 42 through Title 50..........................as of October 1

A *Catalog of Available CFRs Online via GPO Access* will appear as the number one document after every search, listing all CFRs currently available by title and part number.

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Identification Code: Each record will display in the results list as a database identification code, in the form of a citation, followed by the initial words of its heading. For example: 20CFR 404.460. In this example, 20 CFR refers to Title 20 of the CFR, 404.460 refers to the section.

Maximum Responses: The default setting for SWAIS and the WinWAIS/MacWAIS client software is to return a maximum of 40 responses to a query. The default for the Web interface is to return a maximim of 120 documents to a CFR query. To locate a larger number of documents, you will need to change the setting. In SWAIS type a lower case o at the *Source Selection* menu to change your options. In WinWAIS, select *Edit* and then *Preferences* from the pull-down menu. In MacWAIS, select *File* and then *Preferences* from the pull-down menu. On the *GPO Access* Web Searching Pages a box is provided in which you may change the number of documents returned.

The following are sample searches for the *Code of Federal Regulations* database[2]:

N ote: CFR Web Applications such as the retrieval function are discussed after the sample searches.

Subject

Query: "flectol h"
Results: 21CFR189.220— Sec. 189.220 Flectol H
21CFR189— PART 189—SUBSTANCES PROHIBITED FROM USE IN HUMAN
21CFR189— Subpart C—Substances Prohibited From Indirect Addition to Human

This search demonstrates how to search the *Code of Federal Regulations* by subject matter. The search results are comprised of documents broken down by the CFR part, subpart and section where the search criteria is found. For example, if you search for "flectol h" your search results will list the part, subpart and section where the phrase "flectol h" appears. Note: Parts contain subparts which contain sections. As a result, a part will be substantially bigger than a section. (A section is the smallest segment of text.)

Agency Search

Query: "narcotic addicts" AND "drug enforcement administration"
Results: 21CFR291-- PART 291--DRUGS USED FOR TREATMENT OF NARCOTIC ADDICT
21CFR291– PART 291–DRUGS USED FOR TREATMENT OF NARCOTIC ADDICTS
Table of Contents
--21CFR291.501-- Sec. 291.501 Narcotic drugs in the maintenance treatment of narcotic

This seach demonstrates how to search by agency name. (It is a good idea to use a subject in conjunctionwith the agency's name to limit the number of documents in the search results list.) If the part you are searching has subparts, (in this case 21CFR PART 291) the Table of Contents will appear with its corresponding part's title but with a different file size and the label "Table of Conents" (For example, 21CFR291– PART 291--DRUGS USED FOR TREATMENT OF NARCOTIC ADDICTS--Table of Contents)

Query: "20CFR404.1576"
Results: 20CFR404.1576-- Sec. 404.1576 Impairment-related work expenses.

This search demonstrates how to search for a CFR citation. In order to retrieve the most specific search results possible, the citation should be surrounded by quotation marks. In addition, the citation should have no spaces.

Web Applications

Retrieve Files by CFR Citation

If you already know the exact CFR citation you will be able to retrieve a CFR citation by filling out the form below:
YOU MUST FILL IN ALL BOXES.

FOR EXAMPLE: 20 CFR 404 . 1085

TITLE   SECTION   TYPE OF FILE

☐ CFR ☐ **.** ☐   ● PDF ○ TEXT ○ SUMMARY

Limiting Your Search to a Particular Title(s)

In addition, you can make your search more specific and limit the number of false hits by limiting your search to a specific title(s) or volume(s). An example of the Web page is as follows:

Select the Titles or Volumes you want to search by clicking the checkboxes below
(Selection of a Title includes all the available Volumes for that Title in the database search)
Maximum Records Returned: [120] Default is 120. Maximum is 200.

Search Terms: [   ]
If you fail to select any Title, All Titles currently available will be searched

Jump Down to Title: Click on these links to move down the chart to the title you wish to search.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 |

Title	Volume	Chapter	Parts	Regulatory Entity	Online as of
☐ Title 20 Employees' Benefits	1	1	1-199	Office of Workers Compensation, Program Dept. of Labor	Under Development
Revised April 1, 1996		2	200-399	Railroad Retirement Board	
	☐ **2**	**3**	400-499	Social Security Administration	6/3/96

Click here to limit your search to a specific title. Note: you can select more than one title.

Click here to search a specific volume. Note you can select multiple volumes.

Dates are provided so you know exactly when the data was released.

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> **N**ote: Remember, you must search the Federal Register for updates to the CFR

Additional *GPO Access* Materials:

GPO Access User's Guide & Helpful Hints - Available via:

Dial-in: 202-512-1387- From the Main Menu type B for GPO Access; type 4 GPO Access WAIS User Documentation & Helpful Hints; select 2 for Helpful Hints. The guide is available in sections or in its entirety & hints are listed by database name. Files are available in ASCII and PDF formats.

FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov or point your browser to http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov. The file is in the HELP directory. Check 00INDEX.txt for the file descriptions.

Online via GPO Access: The User's Guide is available as a database online via GPO Access and can be accessed through the Web, WAIS and SWAIS. Documents are available in ASCII and PDF formats. The Helpful Hints are available online by searching for the word hints in each database.

The Superintendent of Document's World Wide Web Home Page: The User's Guide and Helpful Hints are available at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/desc004.html.

GPO Access Training Booklet Electronic copies of the training booklet are available on the Federal Bulletin Board via:

Dial-in: 202-512-1387- From the Main Menu select B for GPO Access; select # 4 *GPO Access* WAIS User Documentation and Helpful Hints; select 1 for User Documentation. The self -executing file names are traintxt.exe for the text version and trainpdf.exe for the Adobe Acrobat PDF version (traintxt.sea or trainpdf.sea for Macintosh).

Web/FTP: fedbbs.access.gpo.gov or point your browser to http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov The file is in the HELP directory. Check 00INDEX.txt for file descriptions.

ENDNOTES:

1. Users with SWAIS access will not be able to retrieve PDF files. Users with WAIS or Web access and the free Adobe Acrobat Reader software can view and print and typeset documents.

2. The results of these sample searches are described as they will appear using SWAIS or the WAIS or Web client software customized for use with *GPO Access*. The searches can be performed with other WAIS client software, but the display of the results may vary.